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Cap 3  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

September 5, 1945

### AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

#### PMA PERSONNEL AND FUNCTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS BY STATES ANNOUNCED

Assignments of functions and personnel for each State, as a further step in consolidating operations under the Production and Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture, have been announced by

Administrator J. B. Hutson. The assignments, effective as of September 1, 1945, cover primarily the programs formerly carried out by the State offices of the AAA and by the field offices of the Office of Supply, CCC.

In 30 States, including the six New England States, field operations previously conducted by the AAA and the Office of Supply are now placed under a PMA State Director, with an Assistant State Director as an associate. Both "production" and "marketing" programs will be handled by these State offices.

In most States the Assistant State Director, under the supervision and direction of the State Director, will be primarily concerned with marketing programs; while the State Director, in addition to his over-all supervision, will be directly responsible for production activities. The State Director is administratively responsible to the PMA Administrator, but will report through the Director of the PMA Field Service Branch. With regard to program and operating matters, the State Director will receive general program instructions from the Director of the Field Service Branch, but specific instructions with regard to program operations will be sent to him directly by the PMA Washington branches which are responsible for the different programs.

The "production" programs will include agricultural conservation, adjustment, crop insurance, sugar payment and related production activities. The "marketing" programs will include primarily school lunch, direct distribution, and related food use and preservation programs. In addition, price support, loan, subsidy, purchase, sale, and marketing programs and other functions will be assigned to State offices by the Administrator.

State AAA committees will continue to perform the same functions as heretofore with respect to the agricultural conservation and crop insurance programs. In States where the AAA chairman is not the same individual as the new PMA State Director, he will report to the State Director. District and State office personnel of the former Office of Supply in most States will report to the State Director through the Assistant State Director, who is primarily concerned with marketing programs.

In 18 States, including New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, separate offices for "production" and "marketing" programs are being continued. In these States the Chairman of the AAA State Committee, continuing to use this title, will be responsible for those operations related largely to production. He will perform essentially the same functions as formerly, with such changes and assignments as may be made from time to time.

State Officers for Marketing have been designated for these 18 States. They will perform essentially the same functions as the former State Directors of the Office of Supply, being responsible primarily for school lunch, direct distribution, related food use and preservation programs, and for such other programs and functions as are assigned by the Administrator.





(continued from page 1)

The AAA State Chairman in these States will report directly to the Director of the Field Service Branch, both administratively and in regard to program operations. The State Officers for Marketing will be administratively responsible to the PMA Administrator, but will receive program and operating instructions from the Branch Directors in Washington who are responsible for supervision of the various marketing and distribution programs.

Commenting on the State assignments, Administrator Hutson said: "Conditions vary greatly in the different States. For the present, it seems desirable to consolidate field program direction in single offices in many States, while continuing separate offices for the primary production and marketing functions in others. Operating experience will determine steps which may be advisable in further adjustment of State office administration, looking toward the greatest practicable coordination. We are engaged in a very broad reorganization, and it will obviously take time to find the best answers to all the detailed administrative problems. I am confident, however, that the new organization represents a progressive and positive step toward better production and marketing of farm products."

There follows a list of the New England States for which State Directors have been appointed, together with the names and headquarters of the State Directors, and the names of the Assistant State Directors.

<u>State</u>	<u>State Director, PMA</u>	<u>Headquarters, Director</u>	<u>Asst. State Director</u>
Conn.	W. T. Clark	Hartford, Conn.	F. L. Brennan
Maine	F. J. Nutter	Orono, Maine	N. C. Fitzpatrick
Mass.	S. R. Parker	Amherst, Mass.	P. B. Hearn
N.H.	J. R. Graham	Durham, N.H.	C. E. Brackett
R.I.	R. S. Shaw	Kingston, R.I.	E. H. Barry
Vt.	H. W. Soule	Burlington, Vt.	H. W. Watling

The following lists the Northeast States where separate offices are continued, with the names and headquarters of both the AAA Chairman and the State Officer for Marketing.

<u>State</u>	<u>Chairman, State AAA Committee</u>	<u>Headquarters (AAA Chairman)</u>	<u>State Officer for Marketing</u>	<u>Headquarters (State Office)</u>
N. J.	C. A. Collins	New Brunswick	W. R. Morgan	Newark
N. Y.	R. J. Howard	Ithaca	S. E. Munro	Albany
Penna.	C. A. Zehner	Harrisburg	R. M. Moyer	Philadelphia

**MASS. COUNTY ASSISTANTS  
AND HEAD CLERKS TO MEET**

County Assistants in Conservation and Head Clerks in Massachusetts County Offices will hold a two-day conference in Amherst on September 10 and 11.

The program includes talks on "The Purpose of the Agricultural Conservation Program" and "The 1945 Purchase Program on Potatoes" by C. E. Wickham of the Northeast Regional Office, "My Philosophy of Office Management" by J. W. Dayton of the Massachusetts Extension Service, "1945 Performance" by E. C. Martin, farmer fieldman; "The 1946 ACP" by S. R. Parker, State Director, PMA, "JMT Follow-up" by Mrs. E. I. Starzyk, administrative assistant. Mr. Parker and Mr. Wickham will discuss "How the Reorganization of the Department of Agriculture Affects Us" in concluding the program.







POTATO LOANS AVAILABLE  
SEPT. 15 THRU COUNTY OFFICES

In order to get the big intermediate crop of potatoes consumed through normal channels, the Department of Agriculture is asking growers of late potatoes to place their crop under CCC storage loans. The intermediate crop will not store well and must be used soon after harvesting. Potatoes under loan are sure to bring the support price of at least 90% of parity.

Price support loans on late potatoes will be available through county AAA offices beginning Sept. 15. Applications must be filed not later than Dec. 15, 1945. A preliminary service fee shall be paid at the time an application is made for a loan. The preliminary service fee is the higher of \$5.00 or one half cent for each hundredweight which the borrower estimates he will place under loan.

Loans will be made on U.S. No. 1 potatoes and may be made on U.S. No. 1 size B and U.S. No. 2 potatoes in the lot if none of the U. S. No. 1 potatoes have been removed at the time of harvest or subsequent thereto. Borrowers may deliver loan potatoes to CCC and will receive credit at support rates. The U. S. No. 1 size B and U.S. No. 2 loan potatoes will be eligible for delivery to the extent that the percentage of U.S. No. 1 potatoes in the unit offered for delivery is not appreciably less than the percentage of U.S. No. 1 potatoes in the entire loan at the time the loan was made; and such decrease is not the result of the borrower having sold or otherwise disposed of the top grades of potatoes.

Loans bear interest at the rate of 3% per annum and are payable on demand but not later than April 1, 1946.

Besides the loan program the Department is taking these steps to handle the third largest crop on record:

1. Promoting greater consumption.
2. Buying potatoes for school lunch programs and distribution to institutions. Purchases to Sept. 1 amounted to more than 2,000 carloads. This, however, was less than one-fourth the comparable purchases made to support the price in 1943.
3. Working dehydration plants at capacity, and encouraging canning.
4. Placing carloads in cold storage for from 6 weeks to 2 months.
5. Obtaining the cooperation of the armed forces in serving more potatoes.
6. Diverting potatoes, when necessary, into starch, alcohol, and glucose.
7. A purchase and storage program is now in preparation. Details will be announced soon.

Government purchases to support prices are now being made in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Texas, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Idaho, and Washington.

FARMERS URGED TO CASH  
DAIRY PRODUCTION DRAFTS

Latest reports indicate that farmers are not promptly cashing dairy production payment drafts. Of the drafts issued in the Northeast before Nov. 1, 1944, there were 2,999 totaling \$90,794.85 which had not been presented for payment on June 30, 1945. This causes CCC some difficulty in record keeping and farmers are urged to cash drafts promptly after receiving. The draft form in use at the present time calls for presentation for payment within 90 days of the issue date.







**PREFERENCE RATINGS  
& ALLOTMENT CERTIFICATE  
PROCEDURE IS REVISED**

ten days of date of issuance. Likewise, if dealers use these certificates to order from warehouses, orders must be placed so that shipments may be made by Sept. 30, 1945.

Copper Wire - After Sept. 10, 1945, county committees should not issue Farmer's Copper Wire Allotment Certificates (Form CMPL-361). Certificates issued on or before this date must be used by the holders within

Lumber - Effective immediately, county committees should not issue Farmer's Lumber Certificates (Form FL-201) except for maintenance, repair, and operating purposes or in emergency cases. Further, effective Oct. 1, 1945, county committees shall not issue ratings under any conditions.

Construction Applications Under L-41 - Until further notice, WPB-617 applications for farm construction will be handled according to instructions in Special Services Memorandum 220, Construction 64, as issued June 26, 1945. Approvals for farm construction are still required but ratings for procurement of materials will not be assigned by WPB. However, in the event that a rating is required for some of the materials needed to complete an approved project, applications for priorities assistance should be made to the same local WPB field office using Form WPB-541A (revised).

Farm Gas Engines - The WPB has discontinued scheduling the production of engines and has stopped using ratings at the user level. Accordingly, effective Sept. 1, county committees should not issue Preference Rating Certificates to Acquire Engines for Farm Use (Form GA-276).

Miscellaneous Priority Assistance - WPB Order, PR-28, provides means for civilians to obtain priority assistance after Sept. 30 in exceptional cases by establishing CC ratings. Such ratings are applied for on Form WPB 541-A (Revised) which should be filed with the local WPB field office. County committees may make recommendations on such application. A brief and concise statement attached, showing the urgency of the situation, will be of material assistance in securing approval of the application.

Controlled Materials - No more controlled material allotment numbers will be issued for carloads of wire fencing or other controlled materials under CMP-Reg.4. Allotments heretofore issued and placed with mills will become unrated if not filled by Sept. 30. PR-19 is still operative and farmers may use this method to procure farm supply items, including merchant trade products.

**FARMERS MAY PURCHASE  
MORE AMMUNITION**      Until further notice a manufacturer, supplier or dealer in ammunition may sell and deliver to any person for the protection of crops and livestock, or for hunting or both, the following: 150 rounds of .22 caliber rim fire cartridges, 40 rounds of center fire rifle ammunition (or 50 rounds of the kind ordinarily packaged 50 to the box, such as .25-20, .32-20 Hornet, .38-40 and .44-40), and 100 rounds of shotgun shells of any gauge.

Farmers and ranchers are entitled to the above special quota in addition to their regular quarterly quotas provided by Order L-286 which amount to: 25 shot shells, 100 .22 caliber rim fire cartridges, and 40 center fire cartridges except where usually packed 50 to the box. These quarterly quotas have been in effect since January.

The purchaser must sign a certificate showing that he is authorized to receive the items for the purposes outlined above.







**THREE COUNTIES IN REGION  
CONSIDERED FOR TRIAL  
POTATO CROP INSURANCE**

After reviewing recommendations submitted by State AAA Committee concerning a 1946 trial Potato Insurance Program, the following counties in the Northeast Region are being considered for such a program:

Aroostook, Maine; Monmouth, New Jersey; and Steuben, New York. The following counties are also under consideration: Baldwin, Alabama; Kern, California; Rio Grande, Colorado; St. Johns, Florida; La Fourche, Louisiana; Montcalm and Houghton, Michigan; Scotts Bluff, Nebraska; Beaufort, No. Carolina; Walsh, No. Dakota; Deschutes, Oregon; Charleston, So. Carolina; Cameron, Texas; Accomack, Virginia; Yakima, Washington; and Waushare, Wisconsin.

These counties are being asked to submit a potato acreage and production record on a 10% sample of farms, an estimate of potato grade percentages, and an estimate of the cost of production for farms in the area. This information will be used to calculate premium rates and the insurance coverage.

Because of large acreages of potatoes normally grown in Kern County, California, Aroostook County, Maine, and Walsh County, North Dakota, it will be necessary to limit consideration of an insurance offer to an area in these counties in which the normal planting of potatoes has not exceeded approximately 15,000 acres. The are selected must be typical of potato production within the county.

**CEILING PRICE OF**

**CONCORD GRAPES INCREASED**

The ceiling price of Concord grapes sold for processing has been increased from \$85 a ton to \$127 a ton, delivered to the buyer's premises, in 19 eastern and north central States, the OPA announced this week.

The price increase, effective August 28, 1945, is mandatory under the Stabilization Extension Act, which provides for ceiling price increases when yields are substantially reduced by unfavorable growing conditions. The yield of Concord grapes has been reduced in the 19 States covered by today's increase. These States are all within the same competing marketing area.

The States are Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, No. Dakota, and So. Dakota.

**FARM PRODUCTS PRICES  
DECLINE SLIGHTLY**

Prices received by farmers on August 15, one day after the end of the war, averaged 204 percent of their 1909-14 level, according to BAE. This compared with 206 percent received on July 15.

The parity index -- the relation of prices received to prices paid by farmers -- stood at 118 on Aug. 15, a drop of one point from the previous month and 5 points below the war peak reached in April 1943.

**PRODUCTION OF BY-PRODUCTS  
FEEDS HAS INCREASED**

The total production of byproduct feeds such as oilseed cake and meal, wheat millfeeds, and animal scraps has increased sharply since 1939. The U.S. output of oilseed cake and meal jumped from around 3.8 million tons in 1939 to 6 million tons last year. Production of animal scraps was up 15 percent and of wheat millfeeds and other by-product feeds, up 30 percent.

\* \* \*

---The following 1944 ACP payments have been certified by State Certifying officers for the period ending August 25, 1945: Maine, \$40,112.41; Vermont, \$7,872.12; Mass. \$45,849.20; New York, \$63,629.37; New Jersey, \$772,250.72; and Pennsylvania, \$297,294.92; total Northeast Region, \$1,227,008.74.







FOOD STAMP BILL NOW  
BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE

One of the steps being discussed to help prevent possible farm surpluses in the postwar period is the adoption of a new Government food stamp program. A bill outlining such a plan is now pending before the Senate Agriculture Committee in Congress.

This bill, introduced by Senator Aiken of Vermont and Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin, aims to help low-income families eat more and better food and thereby create a greater effective demand for farm products.

The proposed legislation estimates that the average low-income family spends 40 percent of its income on food. In most cases, that would not provide an adequate diet. Therefore, by issuing food stamps, the Government would carry the extra expense necessary to bring the family up to a minimum adequate diet, and charge only the original 40 percent of the income for the stamps.

The housewife, doing her family marketing, would spend the stamps just like cash. She could use them for any kind of food she wished to buy, unless the stamps were specifically earmarked. The Bill says that the Secretary of Agriculture can earmark up to one-third of the stamps for specified foods. This is to help create a steady market for surplus foods. As particular farm products became surplus, the Secretary would be able to designate food stamps good only for those products and thus help to dispose of the surplus.

The original Federal Food Stamp Plan, introduced by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace in March 1939, had the same objective as the Aiken-LaFollette Bill: (1) a better diet for the people, and (2) the disposal of surplus farm production. Under the earlier plan, a person who received public assistance could buy a minimum of \$1 worth of orange colored food stamps for each member of his family from his local welfare agency. For every two orange stamps he bought, he received one blue stamp free. The blue stamps were used to buy only specified surplus foods.

In introducing the plan in 1939 Secretary Wallace said, "If this plan is fully successful, it means that the day is not far distant when all of the people of the United States will be adequately nourished. Our goal might well be to use surplus foods to end vitamin deficiency in the United States."

UNRRA MAY SEND FOOD TO ORIENT      Rehabilitation of war-stricken areas in the Orient may furnish an additional outlet for U.S. farm products such as wheat, dry beans, and dry peas. Studies are being made of the need and possibilities for shipping food to China and the Philippines to ease their starvation problems. The shipments would be handled through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

An UNRRA spokesman says there are chances for a "big program" to help UNRRA members in the Far East. This would also be helping U.S. farmers market products likely to become surplus on the domestic market.

UNRRA also hopes to step up its food shipments to Europe. Through July, UNRRA shipments of food to Europe from this hemisphere totaled 576,000 tons. Most of this went to Greece, although the distribution area is being expanded as fast as transportation permits.

The greatest food requirements for European relief are in fats and oils and meats, also in great demand in this country. Only the cheapest types of U.S. meat, in relatively small amounts, have been shipped by UNRRA to date.

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Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Division, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Adm., USDA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
September 6, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.

### DAIRY FUTURE IN THE BALANCE

I want to discuss what is ahead for dairying. In doing it, I am not going to take a position for or against any particular proposal designed to keep dairying on an even keel through these postwar years. The questions of policy will have to be settled in the democratic way -- by the folks concerned.

I do want to summarize some of the facts, however. The policies will have to be founded on the facts if they are going to be any good.

The year 1945 will probably see the biggest milk production in American history -- over 122 billion pounds. Yet, tremendous as the amount is, and remarkable as is the achievement of American dairymen in producing it, the increase over normal production isn't nearly as great as many seem to imagine.

The fact is that changes in dairy production don't come fast, even in war. Milk isn't like eggs, for instance, which increased a half in a couple of years or so. As compared with the three years just before the war, there was produced in 1944 only about 10 percent more milk. In 1945, the amount will probably be up two or three percent more, in this case entirely as the result of higher production per cow. The number of cows is already going down a little. We are likely to produce less milk next year.

The most spectacular change that has taken place in the use and marketing of milk is the increase in the quantity of fluid milk and cream sold in this country. Almost the entire increase in milk production has been absorbed by this increased use of fluid milk and cream -- amounting to more than 25 percent.

This, I think, is important to keep clear. As long as this increase in fluid milk purchases continues, even with present production, there will be left for manufacturing purposes only a little more milk than was used that way before the war. One of the biggest questions facing dairying is -- will this high rate of buying continue? Or, perhaps better, how can we make sure that it's going to continue? There are already reports from war industry towns of milk routes being dropped or consolidated because of sales falling off. That big milk market depends on the ability of the customers to buy all they need and want.

The war saw a great increase in the production of condensed and evaporated milk, powdered whole milk, cheese and ice cream -- an increase designed to meet definite war needs.

This increase dipped far into the remaining supplies of milk. That's the main reason for the butter shortage. There wasn't much milk left to make butter of. We used to use around 18 pounds of butter apiece in this country in a year. In the war, this was cut down to around 11 pounds.

Looking ahead, it is clear that we are likely to need less of these other dairy products that have been increased for war purposes.







On the other hand, there is no doubt that Americans want and will buy a great deal more butter if there is nothing to prevent them. If they go back to using as much butter as they used to, the milk that won't be needed for cheese and so on will be needed for butter.

If, then, consumption of fluid milk should keep up and an increase in butter and ice cream should offset the drop in other manufactured products, there would be a market for our present and prospective -- in the near future -- milk production.

Now, as to prices.

The dairy farmers' return now consists of two things -- the check he gets from the creamery and a government milk production payment. Across the country as a whole, the payment makes up over 15 percent of the total.

Over the longer future, the question of what payments will be made, if any, is entirely open.

Milk and its products are included under the Steagall Amendment as commodities whose prices are to be supported at not less than 90 percent of parity for two years after the January 1 following the close of the war.

Ninety percent of parity for milk is a little less than two-thirds the present average return.

The law does not define the means to be used in supporting prices. The question is much debated as to what is the better policy -- whether market prices should be increased enough to bring the desired return, or whether it is better to have prices somewhat lower and make up the difference to the farmer with a milk production payment. The issue is particularly raised of what ought to be done in case we should run sometime into unemployment and a substantial cut in milk consumption with heavy surplus and the problems that go with it.

Should price policies be designed to keep consumption up, or should we have rigid prices and a sharp falling off in sales?

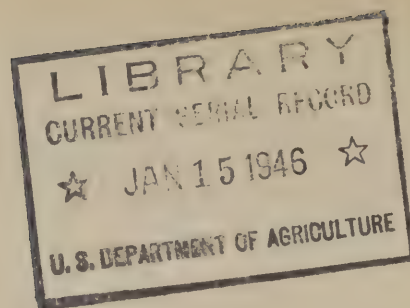
These are among the policy issues facing producers and consumers alike.

They are in their general nature much like the questions for a great number of commodities.

On the one hand we need incomes maintained -- farmers', as well as workers' and town dwellers' -- if we are going to have a market big enough to keep us all busy. On the other, we need prices that will make it possible for consumers to buy that full production.

Price policies for milk, or anything else, have to be shaped with those two ends in view if we are going to do a good job in the years ahead.





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CURRENT CROP RECORD  
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AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

September 12, 1945

**CROP PRODUCTION APPROACHES RECORD** A 1945 bumper harvest as large as in the two record years, 1942 and 1944, is in sight, according to September 1 crop indications. The expected production is 3 percent over August 1 prospects, and 6 percent above 1943. It would be 24 percent above the 1923-32 "pre-drought" average.

All crops expected to set new records last month are still in that class, and tobacco, soybeans, and pears have been added. Production estimates for most crops are above average, exceptions being cotton, rye, apples, sugar beets, dry beans, and broomcorn.

The corn forecast of 3,069 million bushels adds about 225 million bushels to last month's estimate. If September weather is favorable and frosts hold off long enough for corn and other late crops to mature, present prospects might even be exceeded. Early frosts, however, would change the picture.

Other crops showing gains during August, and their present prospects, are: Oats, 1.6 billion bushels, a record; spring wheat, 315 million bushels, the largest crop since 1938; potatoes, 433 million bushels, exceeded only in 1943; tobacco, just under 2 billion pounds, another record; soybeans, 203 million bushels; sugar beets, 9.4 million tons; sorghum grain, 116 million bushels; tame hay, 91 million tons; dry beans, 15.3 million bags of 100 pounds; and dry peas, 6 million hundredweight bags.

Offsetting these August gains somewhat are slightly lower prospects for cotton (10,026,000 bales) -- resulting from increased boll weevil infestation, a smaller rice crop (but still a record at 72 million bushels) because of the Texas hurricane, and less peanuts (2,263 million pounds) because of wet weather.

Feed crop prospects are generally favorable. Total production of 8 food grain crops is estimated at 158 million tons -- the biggest on record, and 2 million tons over last year. Total wheat production amounts to 1,152 million bushels, 74 million bushels larger than any other wheat crop.

Milk production continues at a record level, reflecting excellent pastures and heavy feeding of concentrates. Hens and pullets still laying at a record rate brought egg production for the first 8 months of 1945 to only 5 percent below that for the same period in 1944.

**PRESIDENT PRAISES FARMERS** "One of the most magnificent production jobs in the war has been done by the farmers of the United States . . . No other group in America labored longer or harder to meet the war demands put upon them . . . The Government now must be prepared to carry out the Nation's responsibility to aid farmers in making their necessary readjustments from a wartime to a peacetime basis."

---President Truman in Message to Congress  
September 6, 1945





**TENTATIVE ALLOCATION OF 1946  
CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUNDS**

A preliminary allocation of funds, as approved by the Secretary of Agriculture for use in carrying out the 1946 Agricultural Conservation program has been made to States. The allocation, which is subject to revision by Congressional action, amounts to 92.1 percent of the 1945 apportionment to the Northeast Region. State committees may now go ahead with plans for the 1946 program determining allocation of funds to counties, etc.

The following figures represent the recommended allocation to States based on a formula which takes into consideration the number of census farms, number of small farms, acres of pasture and range, farm woodland, cropland and orchard, and conservation needs. In apportioning county funds, it will be necessary for State committees to add to this allocation the estimated amount needed for the small payment increase on "no application" farms.

<u>State - Region</u>	<u>Recommended Allocation</u>	<u>Percentage of 1945</u>
Maine	\$ 941,000	114.1
New Hampshire	380,000	111.4
Vermont	841,000	90.0
Massachusetts	713,000	100.0
Rhode Island	84,000	90.0
Connecticut	489,000	90.0
New York	5,535,000	90.0
New Jersey	1,024,000	90.0
Pennsylvania	4,713,000	90.0
Northeast Region	\$14,720,000	92.1
North Central Region	75,473,000	100.0
East Central	29,137,000	92.9
Southern Region	59,384,000	111.2
Western Region	46,286,000	100.5
Total U. S.	\$225,000,000	101.2

**PRESIDENT ASKS LEGISLATION  
TO STRENGTHEN FARM PROGRAM**

President Truman has asked for additional legislation "to strengthen the machinery for carrying out price support commitments, and for laying the basis for broader peacetime markets for agricultural products."

In his special reconversion message to Congress, the President recommended:

1. Making an additional \$500,000,000 available to the Commodity Credit Corporation to safeguard farm prices. This should be done by transferring Lend-lease funds to the account of CCC on a continuing basis, he said.
2. Stimulation of the export of farm products, particularly through shipment of more food to war-ravaged areas.
3. Strengthening and further development of the Federal Crop Insurance programs, which, together with the assurance of reasonable and stable farm prices, will go a long way toward meeting basic problems which have plagued farmers in the past.
4. Continuation and strengthening of programs for the conservation and improvement of our soil and forest resources, and also for scientific research.

The President disclosed that Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson is studying existing farm programs to see if any changes are needed to meet peacetime conditions. He asked that Congress, through its appropriate committees, also consider the problem and make any adjustment which will make farm programs more effective.





**GOVERNMENT POTATO PURCHASES INCREASE** Government purchases to support potato prices through the first week of September amounted to more than 4,000 carloads, nearly double the figure of a week earlier. The heaviest purchases of potatoes are being made in New Jersey, Texas, New York, Nebraska, and Colorado.

More than 1,000 carloads of potatoes are held in storage by the Department of Agriculture and over 3,000 carloads have been diverted in 12 States to starch, relief, and experimental and canning purposes.

Since crop indications point to a large late potato crop which will move into the market before the intermediate crop can be consumed, growers are being asked to store late potatoes under CCC loans. These loans will be the means of supporting the prices.

Total potato movement during September is higher than last year during the same period, and slightly higher than during 1943.

**NEW JERSEY ANNOUNCES PURCHASE IN STORAGE PROGRAM FOR POTATOES** A new program to effectuate more fully price support for potatoes was announced on September 10 by Charles A. Collins, Chairman of the State AAA Committee in New Jersey.

Under this program the Commodity Credit Corporation will purchase potatoes from farmers or from certified dealers who will store potatoes in bags or in bulk. It is hoped through this program that the critical shipping situation can be eased as a result of holding potatoes on farms. Potatoes so purchased will be stored on farms until called for but in no event later than November 30, 1945.

To be eligible for participation in this program growers and certified dealers must so notify their local county agricultural conservation committee on or before September 30, 1945.

This in no way takes the place of the loan program which also will be administered by county committees.

**SURPLUS POTATOES FOR LIVESTOCK FEED - MASS.** Thirty carloads of potatoes for feeding to livestock have been shipped into Massachusetts by the Department of Agriculture from purchases made of potatoes offered under price support.

The Government has been purchasing large quantities of potatoes and in order to dispose of them, has sold them to farmers at forty cents per hundred pounds delivered. This makes an economical feed and prevents the wasting of potatoes, which at this time of year are not suitable for storage.

The experience of feeders in Massachusetts last year when 100 carloads were used on demonstrations for feeding indicated sufficient value from the potatoes for this purpose so that farmers have been willing to buy this year.

This has enlarged the market for surplus potatoes and reduced the amount of loss that the Government would accept on some of the purchases otherwise.

**LAST CALL FOR HARVESTING LEGUME SEED** Farmers who haven't completed harvesting of alfalfa and red clover seed are urged to do so in the remaining weeks of September. Since the weather has been favorable for seed production throughout the Corn Belt, farmers may be able to harvest more red clover seed than first expected. Eastern farmers are unable to find alfalfa seed for their fall planting. This legume is needed in the East.





# RATIONING OF TRUCKS TO END DECEMBER 1

The Office of Defense Transportation has announced that rationing of all new commercial motor vehicles including trucks, truck-tractors and trailers will be terminated December 1, 1945. On and after that date, Guy A. Richardson, Director of ODT's Highway transport department said, "A free market will then obtain in the purchase and delivery of commercial motor vehicles; truck sales will be a matter involving buyer and seller except as regulated by agencies other than ODT."

Effective Sept. 22, 1945, persons desiring to obtain a new commercial motor vehicle will no longer be required to file an application with the ODT. After October 1, 1945, the ODT will no longer issue certificates of transfer covering new commercial motor vehicles, but during the period of Sept. 22 to Sept. 30, 1945, inclusive, the ODT will issue certificates of transfer on approved applications submitted prior to Sept. 22, 1945.

During October 1945 dealers are prohibited from transferring new commercial motor vehicles except to holders of valid certificates of transfer. The ODT urged holders of such certificates to place firm orders with the dealers of their choice before Nov. 1, 1945.

During November 1945 dealers are required to give preference in delivery of new commercial motor vehicles to holders of valid certificates of transfer who have placed a firm order with them on or before October 31, 1945. Dealers may, during November 1945, deliver vehicles to any person not a holder of a certificate of transfer, provided they have not made commitments to a holder of such a certificate who shall have placed a firm order with them prior to November 1, 1945.

## APPLE GROWER PRICES INCREASED

An expected apple crop only about half the size of last year's production will bring higher grower prices to be used in setting processors' ceilings on apple products, the Department of Agriculture has announced.

The total 1945 apple crop is indicated at 68,882,000 bushels, compared with a 1944 production of 124,784,000 bushels and an average 1934-43 production of 119,046,000 bushels.

Because of the very low indicated production, increases allowed Central and Eastern States will be greater than for Western States. Prices for States in the Northeast Region follow with last year's prices in parentheses.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class A Varieties</u>	<u>Class B Varieties</u>
U.S. No. 1 Cannery Grade 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and up	\$5.60 per cwt. (\$3.10)	\$4.55 per cwt. (\$2.50)
U.S. No. 2 Cannery Grade 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and up	\$3.00 per cwt. (\$1.65)	\$2.70 per cwt. (\$1.50)
Apples which grade less than U.S. No. 2 Cannery Grade 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch size (cidlers)	\$1.65 per cwt. (\$1.00)	\$1.65 per cwt. (\$1.00)

\* \* \*

1944 ACP payments certified through September 1, 1945, for Northeast States are as follows: Maine, \$40,112.41 (final report); Vermont, \$7,872.12; Massachusetts, \$45,849.20; New York, \$63,629.37; New Jersey, \$772,250.72; Pennsylvania, \$297,309.19; total, \$1,227,023.01.





**MOST FARM CONSTRUCTION  
LIMITATIONS REMOVED**

All construction, remodeling, maintenance and repair of farm buildings and facilities other than farmhouses is exempted from Order L-41, as amended September 7.

All maintenance and repair of farmhouses which does not involve exterior additions is also exempted. All farmhouse repairs and rebuilding caused by fire, flood, etc. are exempted. L-41 approval is still required for new farmhouse construction when the cost exceeds previous dollar limitations. The emergency procedure is no longer necessary and is cancelled.

**DECLINE IN SHEEP AND  
LAMB PRICES IS NORMAL**

Sheep and lamb producers during August generally received about the same returns for their animals as a year earlier -- evidence that the shifting of the payment of the sheep and lamb subsidy from processor to producer did not affect market prices adversely.

Making allowance for the removal of the 95 cents subsidy formerly paid to slaughterers, the market decline in prices of lambs from June to the end of August was not very different from that which occurred in the corresponding period of each of the 3 previous years. The processor subsidy was removed August 5 at the same time that subsidy payments were started to producers.

The total drop to the end of August in weekly average prices of good and choice lambs for 1945 from the highest week to the lowest amounted to \$2.71 at Chicago, \$2.32 at Omaha, \$2.43 at Denver and \$2.85 at Kansas City. Deducting from these amounts the 95 cents subsidy which was formerly paid to the packer, the net declines this year in cost to packers at these four markets ranged from \$1.37 at Omaha to \$1.90 at Kansas City.

The maximum declines at these markets during the corresponding period of 1944 ranged from \$1 to \$2.15; in 1943 from \$1.35 to \$1.80; and in 1942 when there was no subsidy from \$1.33 to \$1.60. During the 3 previous years the seasonal low in prices was not reached until after August and usually occurred sometime in September or October.

**CEILINGS ON DRY  
BEANS UNCHANGED**

Ceiling prices f.o.b. country shipping point for sales of dry edible beans of the 1945-46 crop will not be changed, the OPA has announced. Although some slight modifications of the current regulation are contemplated, basic ceilings throughout the industry will remain unchanged.

OPA's recent circulation of a questionnaire among members of the Dry Edible Bean Industry Advisory Committee asking for comments on proposed changes in the regulation gave rise to reports that an entirely new pricing program would apply to the 1945-46 crop. OPA has made this announcement to correct such impressions.

**BUTTERFAT CONTROLS LIFTED**

More whipping cream, some more butter temporarily, but not much more ice cream will result from the removal of wartime Government controls on the use of butterfat. The end of military buying of butter removes the need for the restrictions, which encouraged the production of dairy products essential for military and civilian consumption.

Greater use of butterfat in cream will probably slow down recent upward trends in butter production, and shortages of other ingredients are expected to prevent any substantial expansion in frozen dairy foods.





**PRESIDENT SEES NEED FOR  
FULL FARM PRODUCTION**

Another year of full production will be needed from farmers in 1946, according to President Truman.

Continuing great demands for food, plus the uncertainties of weather, will call for about the same total acreage in crops next year as this year, the President said in his reconversion message to Congress. He pointed out, however, that this does not mean the same volume of production for each farm commodity, since the surrender of Japan has brought changes in kinds of commodities wanted.

**CRITICAL MEAT  
SHORTAGE OVER**

OPA has removed controls on how much livestock a packer can slaughter and where the meat is to be shipped -- an indication that the critical meat shortage is over. Slaughterers were

placed under quotas and shipping restrictions last April to help ease severe local shortages in many parts of the country, especially in non-producing areas.

Removal of the slaughter controls may result in an average annual rate of 175 pounds of meat per person for the remainder of the year compared with a rate of only 115 pounds for the early part of 1945 and 150 pounds in 1944. Cattle are moving to market now in record numbers. Pork, sheep and lamb supplies, however, will continue to be limited.

**SMALLER NATIONS  
GIVE UNRRA VITAL AID**

Most supplies used under the United Nation's Relief and Rehabilitation Administration program are supplied by the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada.

But other member nations are also keenly aware of the responsibility and have already contributed 300,000 tons of supplies, valued at over \$61 million, to relieve suffering in liberated areas.

Commodities furnished by these countries are mostly in scarce world-supply. Brazil has sent such items as cotton textiles and soap; Chile, fertilizers badly needed to increase crop yields; Cuba, sugar to help war victims' diets. Peru has supplied fish; Mexico, fish and clothing; Uruguay, cheese.

Australia and New Zealand have furnished food, clothing, and other urgently needed articles. South Africa has sent coal. Among India's contributions have been more than 20,000 tons of jute bags, highly important in handling crops.

**MORE LABOR NEEDED**

**FOR FALL CROP HARVEST**

Three million men, women and children will be needed during September, October and November to harvest the Nation's 1945 bumper crops, the Department of Agriculture

reports. Although about 2½ million farm labor placements were made during the first seven months of this year, the Department's Extension Service stated that the shortage of farm labor is now at its tightest point of the war years.

There has been some scattered increase in the farm labor supply as the result of the cessation of hostilities, troop demobilization and war industries cut-backs. However, these gains have been offset by the departure of workers from farms since the lifting of manpower controls. On the basis of 1944 placement records, and the present crop conditions, it is estimated that about 3 million placements will have to be made during this and the next two months to complete the harvesting of essential food and feed crops.

"The biggest threat to a successful harvest of the 1945 bumper crops throughout the country is a let-down in the national awareness of the importance of the harvest," the Extension Service comments.





Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Division, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Adm., USDA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
September 13, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.

### BALANCE BETWEEN BUSINESS, LABOR, AND FARMING

In the next few months this country will have to make more vital, broad policy decisions than are usually made in a decade. These decisions will pretty well shape the kind of country that you and I and our children are going to live in.

Broad policies are made by the people of the country as a whole, but as a rule they come to a focus here in Washington. They will reflect the understanding or lack of it, the degree of acceptance of sobering responsibility, the success or failure in subordinating petty advantages to consideration of broad general welfare of the ordinary citizens of this country.

But this being the pretty successful kind of democracy that it is, the ordinary citizen -- and that means you or I -- will exercise his influence, or fail to do it, through the channels of representative government.

Those channels work well enough so that we can be pretty sure that a substantial and determined majority will have its way. What we ordinary people of the country want, and know that we want, in the way of public action, we usually have. The final responsibility is in our lap, but we exercise much of it through the State capitols and Washington.

These decisions will cover a very wide field, international and domestic. Among the domestic policies to be decided quite a few will be concerned with the field of agriculture. How they are decided seems now certain to determine how good the opportunities will be on the farms of this country for a good many years ahead.

It's true, too, that the adequacy of these farm policies will have a good deal to do with how well the country, as a whole, will get along.

One of our AAA State chairmen keeps referring to our total economy as a three-legged stool. The legs, as I remember his figure, are business, labor, and agriculture.

His point is that the whole stool isn't much good if any one leg is short or weak.

Any of us can see that about a stool. But we may not realize quite as well the lesson he tries to illustrate.

I can think of it best this way. We can't get along very well unless about all the people of the country are able to be good buyers. We can produce so much now that we have to have all those good customers to have an adequate outlet for what we want to produce and sell.

As a matter of fact, we need some good buyers abroad, too. Not that they increase our total market much. We have to take back from them goods somewhere near equal in value to what we sell them. That is the only way, in the long run, that they can pay us.





But they can take some of the goods that we want to produce more of than we can possibly use in this country, and we can take back from them goods that we can't produce at all or that are hard to produce here.

It's hard for me, at least -- and I imagine for a lot of other people--to realize how much our ability to turn out goods has gone up in this war.

Looking to the years just ahead, it is safe, I am sure, to estimate that our farms are all set to produce 40 percent more food than we did just before the war. We sha'nt need to have the average person of the country eat quite 40 percent more than he did then. Our population has gone up several percent while the war has been going on. But we do need customers able, on the average, to buy at least 30 percent more, and able to pay a bit better price, too.

That's one reason why we in agriculture are anxious to have those labor and business legs good and strong -- why we know that it is important that there be lots of jobs and wages high and that business be thriving.

It's the same when labor and business look at the farm country where a lot of their customers live.

I don't have any figures for the increase in total output of goods and services that labor and business will stand ready to deliver, and that they will have to have good customers for, if they are going to get along well. But the expansion there must be larger, by far, than the 40 percent increase that agriculture will be hunting a market for.

If farming is going to do its share of the job of providing the market for industry, it's obvious that its income will have to be up in proportion to the increased quantity of goods seeking a market on the farms. Or else those goods will have to be priced that much cheaper.

That's why the farm policies to be decided rank in importance to the whole country right along with the wage and labor and employment and business encouragement policies.

If the farm price policies to be worked out in the next few months should be inadequate to keep farm buying power in balance with labor and business buying power, that three-legged stool will be a pretty rickety thing to serve as a foundation for the national welfare.

(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committeemen, State Executive Officers, Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in New Jersey, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, County Committeemen in New Jersey.)





United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch; Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D.C.

September 18, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

442  
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1945  
ORR AND NORTHRUP TO HEAD GERMAN FARM PROGRAM  
Faced with the problem of "de-Nazifying" Germany's agricultural program, three former AAA men will leave for Germany September 25 to work under the U. S. Group Control Council for Germany.

As a part of the USGCC, the Food and Agriculture Division will guide German farm production and distribution programs in the American Occupation Zone. Army personnel with an agricultural background will work with the organization.

The men who will help German farmers govern themselves are: J. L. Orr, Assistant Chief, AAA; F. B. Northrup, Director, Office of Materials and Facilities (one time Assistant Chief, AAA, and before that, Assistant Director, Northeast Region); Harry Stafford, in charge of Minidoka War Relocation Center and once executive assistant to the Idaho State AAA Committee; T. L. Sweet, a native of Rhode Island, recently Chief of the Programs Branch, OMF; and Harold Mills, Assistant Director, Farm Machinery Branch, WPB.

Under the Food and Agriculture Division, Mr. Northrup will head the production branch, assisted by Mr. Stafford, and Mr. Orr will head the production policies and programs section. Other branches probably will be placed under the supervision of Mr. Sweet and Mr. Mills. Brig. General Hugh B. Hester will be in charge of the Food and Agriculture Division.

Under the Nazi agricultural programs, the Germans had an office in each province and in each of the 700 counties. Set up along Nazi lines, every 50 farms were supervised by a committee, headed by a leader. Goals were set for agricultural production, and crops were delivered to the committee. The individual farmer was allowed to keep only a part of his production. When a farmer was suspected of holding back too much for himself, the Gestapo took action.

The American Occupation Zone, in southwestern Germany, has the same latitude as northern Minnesota, and an average rainfall comparable to the eastern Dakotas. Its growing season is longer --- about 200 days.

BEEF PAYMENTS UNTOUCHED BY LIFTING OF QUOTAS  
Farmers are finding little change in the procedure for applying for and receiving beef production payments through their county AAA offices as the result of the removal of slaughter quotas on packers.

Payments are still being made on eligible cattle sold to any slaughterer. County offices require certification of sale by the buyer and evidence of past ownership to prevent duplicate payments on the same cattle. The rate of payment is 50 cents per hundred pounds for sales of "good" cattle weighing 800 pounds or more.

Forty million dollars has been set aside for the program, which will continue through next June 30. The subsidy is designed to encourage feeding of cattle to heavier weights.





**IRISH POTATO SUPPORT  
PROGRAM EXPANDED**

A broadened purchase and loan program for the nation's bumper crop of Irish potatoes was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson.

The expanded program provides for government purchase in some areas, and for the granting of government loans in others, when the potatoes are held on farms in "bank or pit storage."

The total 1945 potato crop was estimated on September 1 at 433 million bushels, as compared with approximately 379 million bushels in 1944 and an average of 375 million for the years 1934-43. The broadened program is designed to aid producers in disposing of this large crop, and to support prices in accordance with government war-time commitments.

Government purchases of "intermediate crop" Irish potatoes located on farms in bank or pit storage in New Jersey and Texas, and up to October 1 on Long Island, New York, will be made at the previously announced support prices, less 50 cents per hundredweight bulk for marketing services which do not have to be performed in field storage. Previously, government purchases of intermediate potatoes have been moved from the farm directly into disposal channels.

The expanded program also provides for extension of the government loan program for "late crop" potatoes to include loans on potatoes in field bank or pit storage, where other storage facilities are not available to the producer. This type of storage has not previously been approved for government loans.

Overall requirements for civilian consumption, military needs, seed potatoes, and normal waste in harvesting and storage are expected to account for about 380 million bushels from the 1945 crop, leaving the rest of the crop for diversion, for government purchase, or for storage under loans. Up to September 1, the government had already purchased 5,395 carloads (approximately 600 bushels to the car). More than 4,000 carloads of these have been disposed of through diversion channels, including school lunch and other welfare programs, for canning, for starch production, and a small percentage as livestock feed. The remainder were placed in storage.

Commenting on the broadened program, Secretary Anderson said, "The very high yield this year, coupled with reduced military requirements, has brought about a real potato marketing problem. We have developed this expanded program after consultation with industry representatives, and we intend to follow through vigorously on the purchase and loan provisions in support of the potato market. This is in accordance with the Department's commitments to support prices, under the provisions of Congressional action.

"We are exploring every possible diversion channel, including the possibility of shipments to Europe, and we hope that the great bulk of the potatoes which come under the government program can be disposed of usefully. In the meantime, we must take up intermediate potatoes now, to prevent their hanging over the late potato market. The purchase and loan activities will be continued as long as necessary to do the job. The size of the job will be lessened if the food distributive trades and the housewives of the country will do all they can to see that full use is made of potatoes in every practicable way. There is a real challenge here to conserve this valuable food crop."





## THE CHALLENGE OF TODAY

A reprint of a summary of a talk by George Dykhuizen,  
Department of Philosophy, University of Vermont, Burlington;

There was a time in the history of our country when the people of America were in that state of mind which is so essential a condition to the health and sanity of men and nations alike. It was that state of unconscious, unreflective energy in which our national faith was like the air we breathe -- something taken for granted and made the basis of positive, vigorous, and assured action.

Our fundamental ideas were no longer topics for debate. They were accepted as true and functioned primarily as the presuppositions of all our thinking on political, economic, and social matters. In the realm of morals, we believed that each individual had certain inalienable rights which had to be respected. In the field of government, we held that the least government was the best government. In the area of business, we felt that free enterprise, vigorous competition, individual ownership, and private capital were best. In the field of international relations, we held that Americans should not meddle in the affairs of other nations, but should demonstrate to the rest of the world that democracy, as we understood it, could work. All of these ideas we worked out to our satisfaction in our social structure.

But changes were in the making, slowly at first and then with ever increasing rapidity, till finally we have today a social order in which we find:

1. That group action has, for the most part, supplanted individual action in our national economy.
2. That the various parts of our domestic economy are profoundly interdependent.
3. That liberal government with a hands-off policy is giving way to a social service state.
4. That the fortunes of our country are inextricably tied up with the fortunes of other countries.

These changes in our economic and social order have placed us in a predicament -- a predicament of serious and large enough proportions to be called a crisis. The essence of the crisis is this. Our traditional ideas no longer fit new conditions. The new wine will not go into the old bottles.

The challenge which this situation brings to us is to rethink and reinterpret our traditional ideas about government, economics, and international affairs. We are faced with nothing less than the necessity of thinking out a new social philosophy which, when applied to life, will both save our democratic heritage and fit in with the changed conditions of the twentieth century. This is a difficult and painful task, but one which we cannot avoid if we would be worthy citizens of a democratic nation.

## 3,731 CARS POTATOES PURCHASED IN NORTHEAST

As of this week, reports show government purchases of potatoes in Northeast States totaled 3731 cars. New York, (Long Island) 1,405; New Jersey, 2,123; Massachusetts, 131; Pennsylvania, 56; Rhode Island, 8; Connecticut, 8. These are being disposed of for welfare, starch, storage, experimental and canning purposes.





**FARMERS URGED TO PUT EXTRA CASH INTO WAR BONDS** Farmers can protect themselves against any possible price collapse after this war by investing their high income dollars in War Bonds. This argument will be directed to farm people during the Victory Loan campaign which starts October 29.

Treasury officials point out that bank deposits of farmers are more than three times as large as in 1941. By putting more of this money in War Bonds, farmers will build up cash reserves against lean years. Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson, also recommends the buying and holding of War Bonds until the danger of inflation is past.

**FARMER'S SHARE OF FOOD DOLLAR** Farmers received 54 cents out of each consumer's food dollar for most of 1945. The 54 cents is one cent below the record highs recorded in April 1918, December 1944, and January 1945. Seasonal lows in the farmers' share are usually reached in June and July.

**AMPLE COLD STORAGE SPACE AVAILABLE** Farmers can expect plenty of cold storage for their perishable products this fall. Cooler and freezer holdings are the lowest in 2 years although still above the prewar average.

Cooler space likely will not average more than 72 percent filled this year, compared with 85 percent last year and 77 percent in 1943. Freezer space will reach about 84 percent, compared with between 91 and 98 percent for the past 2 years.

Storage holdings of frozen fruits and vegetables, cream, butter, cheese and beef are somewhat higher than a year ago. Holdings of pork, other meats, and lard, eggs and poultry, are considerably less.

The short apple crop and a drop of almost 50 percent in pork production are two reasons for the smaller storage holdings.

**WHEAT INSURANCE FACTS IN SENECA COUNTY, NEW YORK** "How often you hear a farmer say that if he couldn't grow at least 25 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre he'd quit planting it," says Albert Gustafson, Seneca County Assistant, is a letter to farmers. "Yet in 1943," he continued, "based on actual insurance experience, there were almost 550 farms on which the wheat crop yielded less than 1/2 that per acre. Had every farm carried wheat insurance that year, more than \$60,000 would have been returned to them by the Insurance Corporation in the form of indemnity."

For the 5 year period, 1939 to 1943 inclusive, based on actual experience and assuming the insured farms to be a representative cross section, he said there actually were an average of 160 farms in the county per year which harvested less than insurance would guarantee them. And anyone would say that they were good wheat years with the exception of 1943.

Needless to say, wheat insurance sales are going good in Seneca County.

**USDA REASSURES EGG PRODUCERS** The Government is preparing an egg-buying program to support the recently weakened egg market. The Department of Agriculture will carry out the Government commitment to support the price of producer's eggs.-

The egg market has been running weak and unsteady - particularly on undergrade and current receipt eggs - probably because military buying of frozen eggs has declined sharply. Army cancellations of dried eggs contracts will not mean a wholesale dumping of frozen eggs on the market, the Department declares. Any frozen eggs, classed as surplus property, will be disposed of in an orderly manner.





## INFLATION WOULD MEAN DISASTER FOR FARMERS

With the war over, farmers as a group should work for the continuation of price controls until the supply catches up with the demand and there is no longer a tendency to bid up prices because of a scarcity. Such a plan will keep farmers from a postwar disaster such as that which struck after World War No. 1, declared George W. Westcott, agricultural economist at Massachusetts State College, in a recent radio address.

It is generally accepted that our country has been at least moderately successful in keeping prices stable during the war. Prospects for the postwar period depend upon farmers, factory workers, office workers - in fact, everybody.

If we can keep prices stable, he says, the transition from war to peace will come much more smoothly and with less unemployment.

The New England farmers' interest in inflation first of all is to see that farm produce prices are kept at somewhere near the present levels. Second, farmers must discourage land values from going higher. Otherwise, this higher overhead would eat into their farm income. Third, they must urge that non-farm prices be stabilized in order to preserve their own purchasing power. If non-farm prices were allowed to go up say 50 percent, then the 300 million dollars of farm savings in New England would dwindle to 200 million.

Full employment and stable wages and prices will mean more to New England farm incomes than any other single thing, said Mr. Westcott. If we are to have world peace, we must have economic stability or we start down the road to more wars.

In addition to the three main steps mentioned, Mr. Westcott advocates that farmers continue to reduce outstanding debts and that they put present income into reserves for the future rather than try to spend it now for new equipment. Save as much as possible until these materials become available in sufficient quantities for all.

## THE FRUIT SITUATION

The Department of Agriculture's 1946 Outlook Issue of the Fruit Situation says in part: Assuming large crops next year, prices to growers for the 1946 fruit crops probably will average considerably lower than prices during the past two crop seasons, when they reached wartime levels. Military needs will be greatly reduced, consumer income probably will be less, and a larger quantity and greater variety of many other food and nonfood commodities -- both domestically produced and imported -- will be competing for the consumer's dollar.

Despite declines in acreage of some fruits, total production of all fruits has increased about 40% during the past 10 years. Two factors are the increase in bearing surface attained as the trees grow older, and the improved practices being followed in the commercial orchards which are becoming a larger proportion of all fruit-growing areas. Granted normal weather for the rest of this year and in 1946, abundant crops of fruits and nuts will be produced next year.

Despite the fact that the sudden end of the war with Japan is resulting in some increase in unemployment, prices of some 1945-crop fruits will continue at or near ceilings. The prospective record-low apple crop probably will sell throughout the season at or near ceiling prices. Eastern varieties will be particularly short, but the western crop may be only about 4% smaller than average. Market prices for 1945-crop fresh pears of eastern varieties may be at or near ceilings for most of the season. Although the total U.S. production is currently estimated at a record-high figure, about 4% larger than last year and 16% above average, the crop in the Eastern States was greatly reduced by spring freezes.





**REGARDING RELEASES OF MEN FROM THE ARMED FORCES TO RETURN TO THE FARM** There are frequent requests being received by the Department of Agriculture for information about or assistance in obtaining releases of men from the armed services to return to, or to engage in, an agricultural endeavor.

All applications should originate with the service man. He makes his request in writing to his immediate unit commander. Generally, the reasons for release fall under (1) the convenience of the Government (such as the National health, safety or interest, or the physical disability of the applicant); (2) personal interest of the individual (such as to prevent or relieve destitution of a dependent when the necessity therefor is extreme, or because of erroneous induction).

**ARMY CASES:** Applications by enlisted men are handled in the field by the first commanding officer with discharging authority, and do not come to Washington for approval. The soldier makes his application under Army Regulations 615-360, 361, 362 or 365 as may be appropriate. His organization has a file of regulations, and there is a clerk who will give him such assistance as may be fitting. Written evidence of an impartial nature could be attached to his application when filed and be helpful to the authorities deciding his case.

Commissioned Officers follow the same general plan under War Department Circular No. 485 of 29, December 1944, except their cases are forwarded through channels to the War Department in Washington for final action.

**NAVY CASES:** (including Marine Corps and Coast Guard) These will follow the same general plan as Army cases. The sailor applies to his immediate Unit Commander for a Special Order Discharge (or Leave), giving his reasons therefor and supporting them with impartial, written evidence where appropriate and the case is forwarded through channels to Washington for final action: Navy personnel cases to the Chief of Navy Personnel; Marines to the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps, and Coast Guard to the Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, all at Washington 25, D.C.

**FARMING FURLOUGHS** from the Army are no longer given in order for one to engage in extensive farming operations; however, under War Department Circular No. 105, 4 April 1945, the Camp Commander may issue a "pass" to an individual soldier to assist in emergency cases of need for farm work or food processing, when such passes do not seriously interfere with service requirements, and the request is supported by proof of necessity. These matters are handled at the Camp.

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RAINFO TRANSCRIPTION

A. N. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Div., Field Service Br.  
Production and Marketing Adm., USDA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
September 20, 1945 - 8:15 a.m.

BIG FARM PRODUCTION - PROMISE AND PROBLEM

This year's farm production in this country is now pretty well settled. It's big -- much bigger than seemed possible earlier, as the farmers struggled through the dozens of difficulties that beset them -- protracted rains, frost, cold, floods and the rest.

This year's level probably won't be at quite record heights, but it is close to 1944's output. It's at least a third more than before the war.

If it were not for the sharp drop in pork, food production might even exceed any previous year. Many crops are giving larger total yields than ever before. That is true of wheat and the food grains as a whole. The total quantity of the grains for feed, too, is ahead of last year, although corn is still estimated at a figure a little under 1944. The big crop of oats overbalances the little drop in corn.

That's particularly fortunate for our Northeastern dairy and poultry farmers, and for the rest of us who want ample supplies of chicken, eggs and milk.

The grain supply has been tight for months now. Total grain demands are extremely high. But with the big crops now harvested, or nearly ready to harvest, the situation should improve.

There will probably continue to be some scarcity of the high-protein ingredients used in mixed feeds, in spite of the exceptionally big crops of soybeans and flaxseed. The increase in those crops should keep us out of serious trouble, on this account, however.

This year's potato crop is now estimated at 432 million bushels, something like 80 million over average. In fact, it's probably around 50 million bushels more than we have any really pressing needs for.

There was not an excessive acreage planted to potatoes, but the national yield per acre is way beyond anything ever known in this country. It is estimated at 188 bushels. The nearest we ever came to it was 1943's 139 bushels.

This year's crop was raised under a promise of price support which is being carried out. That means that these extra millions of bushels are the problem of the government -- to make the best use it can of them.

Even the total supply of fruit will not be seriously short, in spite of the fact that the Eastern apple crop was cut to a fraction by the frosts and cold of last spring.

Livestock production, except pork, is high, with milk and beef marketings setting records and egg production holding up remarkably. We have had high production along almost all the farm front, maintained year after year, in spite of what seemed, in many ways, unfavorable weather. It has tended to get a little higher year by year and has been a great national asset during the war.

It appears to be, on the other hand, another one of those assets that we need to know how to utilize and take full advantage of during the peace -- just as we need to know how to take advantage of our increased industrial productive ability.





Some of the large farm production in the earlier war years was the result of favorable weather. But the persistent upward trend year after year came from the nationwide spread of better farming.

That better farming was the result of a wide variety of improvements. Better varieties, like hybrid corn, brought quicker maturity in unfavorable seasons and bigger yields. Better fertilization and soil conservation have given only a foretaste of what they will accomplish. Better machinery makes it possible to till and spray and harvest more nearly when they should be done and in spite of handicaps. Disease and insect control advance year by year. The process of the shifting of crops to the areas most favorable for each is still going on.

The list could be extended indefinitely. But the truth is clear. Agriculture is in a position to produce and to serve the country as it has never served it before.

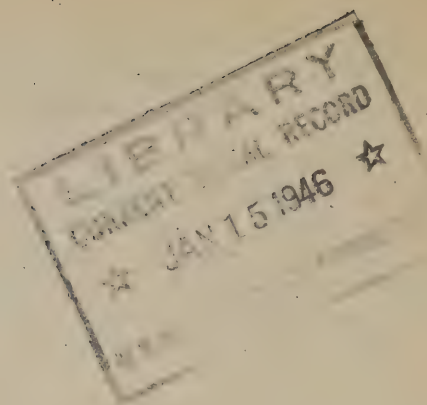
Seeing that that capacity to serve is fully used -- that it results in a people better fed than ever before and an agriculture more prosperous than ever before -- is a problem not alone for farmers, but for the whole country.

It is a piece of the problem of making advancing science and invention the foundations of a finer, kindlier world -- freer from misery and want and not the creators of joblessness and poverty.

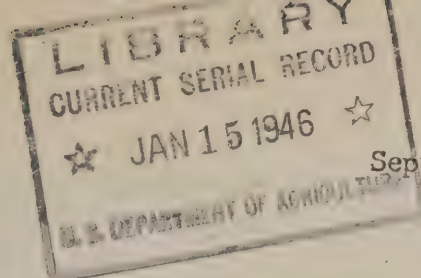
It's that problem that we come to grips with now, when the war has come to a close and we shape the kind of a peace that we are to live with.

On the farm front it can find a solution that's good for the country and good for farmers only if we have adequate national programs to do two things: to see that those who need that food are able to secure it in abundance, and to see that the prices that farmers receive are maintained at fair levels -- levels high enough to assure that farmers, too, are good customers for industry's full production.





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p 4  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.



Sept. 26, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Division

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One of the most thoroughly misunderstood subjects in the next few months is likely to be the Government program about potatoes, A. W. Manchester told WBZ radio listeners in his regular weekly broadcast which follows.

Part of the confusion and controversy will come from rumors, mis-information, or half-information. But part will come from the facts themselves. For, in a program like the potato program, situations can't help developing which, unless they are thoroughly understood, just seem not to make sense.

Here are the facts:

It was considered necessary, when the plans for 1945 food production were made, to make sure that we had enough potatoes. That was back in the early winter of 1944. Plans for the potatoes for one winter's eating have to be made the winter before. It was decided that, to be sure of enough potatoes, we would need to plant about 3 million, 137 thousand acres.

In order to make sure that all those acres were planted, farmers were  
(continued on page 6)

**WALLACE POINTS OUT FARMER  
STAKE IN FULL EMPLOYMENT**

Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace again is calling the attention of farmers to the big stake they have in full employment for city people.

The man who served as Secretary of Agriculture from 1933 to 1940 says that with full employment after the war, the average person will eat 96 pounds of pork products a year compared with 67 pounds in the years of unemployment before the war. The same person will eat 25 pounds of chickens compared with 18 pounds; 75 pounds of oranges compared with 49 pounds; and 38 percent more canned vegetables, 12 percent more dairy products, and 17 percent more eggs -- all with full employment after the war.

However, if 10 million people are unemployed after the war, the net income of the average farmer would be sliced in half. Fifteen million unemployed people would cut the net income of agriculture to only one-fourth of what it was in 1944.

These figures and conclusions are given by Mr. Wallace in his new book, "Sixty Million Jobs." He points out that farmers would prefer to cooperate with industry for all-out production of industrial and farm products rather than to cooperate among themselves to match a scarcity program of industry.

**WHEAT INSURANCE  
SALES REPORTED**

While final figures will probably be somewhat higher, preliminary reports from wheat insurance counties in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey show a total of 11,149 applications. Incomplete county reports in Pennsylvania total 6554, New York, 4026; and New Jersey, 569. The only county figures available at present are those in New Jersey which are reported as follows: Burlington, 144; Cumberland, none; Hunterdon, 100; Middlesex, 102; Monmouth, 135; Salem, 7; and Somerset, 81.

County sales in the other States will be reported later.

**POTATO CEILINGS SUSPENDED**

Price ceilings have been suspended on white potatoes for a period beginning September 14 and ending October 25, OPA has announced. This marks the first action of the kind on an important staple food item. During this suspension period, the ceiling may be restored, the suspension extended, or potatoes removed from price control altogether.

A recent survey revealed that in many instances, potatoes are selling at lower than community ceiling prices, due to heavy potato marketing. The Office of Economic Stabilization authorizes removal of items from price control when there will be "no increase in prices above the general level of existing ceilings for the commodity."

Certified and war approved seed potatoes are not included in the suspension order.

**USDA ISSUES**

**FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS**

Farmers need fear no lack of protein feeds after new-crop vegetable proteins become available if official feeding recommendations are followed, the Department of Agriculture has announced.

Specific recommendations have been issued through field offices for each type of livestock and poultry production. In brief, they urge:

1. More grain and less protein for turkeys, broilers, and late-hatched chicks;
2. Culling of old hens and slowly maturing birds;
3. More pasture and less protein for dairy and beef cattle; and
4. Use of protein supplements for brood sows and fall pigs, rather than for market hogs.

The current tight protein feed situation results from expanded flocks of turkeys and chickens and heavier feeding of hogs and dairy cows, while protein supplies for last year were no larger than a year earlier. New-crop production is not yet available in volume. September and October are the in-between months in protein production.

**TURKEY SET-ASIDE  
ORDER IS ENDED**

With enough turkeys in sight for holiday dinners for the armed services, the Department of Agriculture has terminated the Government set-aside order. If more turkeys should be needed, they will be bought in the open market.

The 1945 turkey crop is expected to be of record or near-record size, and should be adequate to supply both the armed forces and civilians with turkeys for the holiday season.



RESPONSIBILITY TO FARMERS  
RECOGNIZED BY UNITED STATES

The Government recognizes its responsibility to support the prices of war crops while farmers are reconverting to a peacetime footing, according to Secretary of Agriculture Anderson.

Speaking before the Agriculture-Industry conference at Decatur, Illinois, the Secretary forecast an end to most of the hold-the line subsidies by next June 30. However, he differentiated between subsidies and price support programs.

The Secretary said that while we must continue to guard against inflation we must recognize that many of the factors that made wartime subsidies necessary are rapidly disappearing.

"The removal of subsidies for some products should have no effect on the price," he stated. "In some other cases removal of subsidies would result in some increase in the price to consumers. Removing the butter price rollback, for example, would probably result in a butter price rollup. But in view of the great production of some crops, such as potatoes and citrus fruits, with a consequent decline in prices, the total effect upon the cost of living should just about cancel out."

Stressing the dependence of good farm prices on full employment, the Secretary said the farmer should welcome a condition of good wages, for that would increase sales of farm products.

"Nothing would make the farmers of the United States happier than the opportunity to produce to the limit for a population with enough food dollars in its pockets to buy the output at fair prices," he said. However, he warned that a return to marketing quotas to keep surpluses from piling up may be necessary should there be wide-scale unemployment.

With full employment, farmers would not need to return to pre-war production levels, he declared. Instead, they could even expect an increase in the market for dairy products.

Referring to corn and other feed grains, the Secretary said: "Acreage of these crops could probably continue at about present levels if yields per acre remained the same as now. Due to improved soil practices and methods and to the introduction of new crop varieties, however, we can probably expect an increase in yields."

SURPLUS AUTOMOTIVE  
PARTS OFFERED FOR SALE

Surplus automotive parts -- \$300,000,000 worth of them -- are now being offered for sale by the Department of Commerce, Office of Surplus Property. Most of the parts will be new, but some may be shelf-worn.

Orders by wholesalers, dealers, service garages, and fleet operators, will be limited to a \$500 minimum. Dealers wanting smaller orders can be supplied through their distributors, who order in larger amounts.

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---1944 Agricultural Conservation Program payments were certified as follows as of September 15, 1945: Maine, \$40,102.41 (final report); Vermont, \$8,460.43; Massachusetts, \$45,849.20; New York, \$63,647.43; Pennsylvania, \$297,221.02; and New Jersey, \$772,250.72.

THE OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT      Conditions in the United States are favorable for maintaining wheat acreage at around current levels for the next year or two, according to the Department of Agriculture.

The surpluses of wheat that accumulated before the war in the United States and in many foreign countries, have been reduced to moderate levels, and export demands for wheat are sufficient to take most of the surpluses from the 1945 wheat harvest.

However, if a large wheat acreage is maintained for several years, this country again will have the problem of surpluses. With normal growing conditions and with the recovery of production in other countries, the requirements for wheat exports from the United States in a few years will be greatly reduced.

In fact, if production in the United States is maintained while prices are supported at 90 percent of parity, this country may begin to build up surplus stocks in 1947 unless, in the meantime, crops are short in some other countries. The price of wheat in the United States is now considerably above the level prevailing in any other exporting country. On August 15, the average farm price was \$1.45 a bushel or 95 percent of parity.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 provides price support loans to cooperating farmers at 90 percent of parity on wheat harvested before the expiration of the two-year period beginning the first of January following the official proclamation that hostilities have ceased. While prices in this two-year period would likely be below the levels since 1943, they would be above prices in any of the 18 years between 1925 and 1943.

Under present conditions, farmers undoubtedly will seed a wheat acreage at least equal to that seeded for the 1945 crop. The national goal for 1946 is 68.9 million acres which is practically the same as was seeded for the 1945 crop. With average yields, this acreage would produce a crop of about 900 million bushels.

This, with stocks on July 1, 1946 of about 300 million bushels, would provide for requirements and leave about 400 million bushels for export and carry-over. If Canada and the Southern Hemisphere countries have good crops, exports from the United States probably would not exceed 100 million bushels, which would leave a carry-over of about 300 million bushels on July 1, 1947. A larger crop would add to the size of the U. S. carry-over.

FARM INDUSTRY      With their job well done, 1,036 ODT agricultural  
COMMITTEES TO BE DISSOLVED      industry transportation committees over the  
Nation will be dissolved November 1.

The committees were set up during the war to conserve commercial truck transportation of dairy, livestock and poultry products, perishable and seasonal farm products. County AAA committees assisted the transportation committees by furnishing information on the various commodities.

Annual savings as a result of the transportation committees and other ODT functions amounted to 635 million truck miles. The war necessity certificates issued farmers controlled about 1.6 million farm trucks.

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---The individual must keep himself informed concerning the facts in the situation which he is called upon to judge and must broaden his sympathies so as to include the happiness of other people in his calculations.

---Dr. George Dykhuizen, University of Vermont



CANADA REPORTS SMALLER  
POTATO CROP THIS YEAR

Canada's potato crop this year is tentatively estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in Ottawa at 71,000,000 bushels compared with 82,000,000 bushels last year and the 10-year 1934-43 average of 68,200,000 bushels, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Because of the small crop, the exportable supply of Canadian potatoes is likely to be substantially smaller than last season when exports to the U. S. amounted to approximately 9,100,000 bushels of which 2,600,000 bushels were certified seed potatoes and 6,500,000 bushels table stock. The belief now is that Canadian export licenses will be granted for no more than the low duty quotas (1,500,000 bushels of seed potatoes and 1,000,000 bushels of table stock). Unless crop prospects improve, this quantity is about all that can be exported if Canadian requirements are to be filled.

The Canadian Government does not have a price-support program in effect this year but it does maintain a price ceiling. The base ceiling for the September-October period is \$1.37 per 75-lb. bag of Canada No. 1 grade, f.o.b. Grand Falls, New Brunswick. The ceiling is 30 cents higher for Canada No. 1 large and 15 cents lower for Canada No. 1 small. The base ceiling price is equivalent to \$1.56 (U.S. currency) per 100 lbs., or about \$2.08, freight and duty paid to nearby U S. markets.

MORE FOOD NEEDED  
FOR EUROPEAN RELIEF

President Truman and Secretary of Agriculture Anderson report that this country will ship large additional quantities of food to Europe as soon as satisfactory financial arrangements can be made.

In separate statements, the President and the Secretary indicated that European relief requirements could absorb just about any surplus food production that might appear in this country the rest of this year.

"Substantial increase can be made in our contribution of food to UNRRA in the next few months if the Congress shortly appropriates an additional \$550,000,000 (for UNRRA)," according to Mr. Anderson. He noted that U. S. exports of food to Europe have been cut down sharply by the expiration of Lend-lease.

In his statement, Mr. Truman said U. S. shipments of food for European relief during the last quarter of 1945 would include: 150,000,000 pounds of meat and meat products; 70,000,000 bushels of wheat; 28,000 short tons of raw sugar; 90,000,000 pounds of dry beans and peas; 13,000,000 pounds of lard.

As soon as means of payment can be arranged, we are prepared to ship these supplies: 60,000,000 pounds of cheese; 200,000,000 pounds of dry whole milk powder; 25,000,000 pounds of dry skim milk powder; and 15,000,000 pounds of condensed milk.

Both the President and the Secretary said that this country wants to do its part in helping to restore health and strength to the peoples who fought with us in Europe and in the Far East.

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---Secretary of Agriculture Anderson has directed agencies and offices of the Department of Agriculture to cooperate fully in the promotion of Fire Prevention Week which begins October 7.



(continued from page 1)

promised that the price would be supported at a definite figure. The figure varies from State to State.

The acreage that was actually planted last spring was quite a little under the goal -- a bit more than 200 thousand acres under.

Careful students are convinced that this acreage would not have been planted without the price support promise.

During the early part of the season, when early potatoes were being dug, there were even some shortages in the market. This was because stocks of old potatoes from the year before were exhausted, and the season was late in some of the early potato areas, so that their potatoes were late in coming to the market.

But since sometime in August potatoes have been flooding the market, and it has been necessary for the Government to be very active in carrying out its promise to support the price.

Yields have been running very much above average. In fact, the average yield for the United States is now estimated at the hitherto unheard-of figure of 152 bushels per acre. The nearest we ever came to that was 139 bushels in 1943. Before 1940, the biggest yield we had ever had was 124 bushels, and yields as high as 120 occurred only rarely.

This 152 bushels means a lot more potatoes than we would have with any yield it would have been safe to count on. A good many careful people felt that the goal set even anticipated too high a yield for safety.

The facts about some of the bigger Eastern commercial potato areas illustrate the problem. New Jersey raised 13 million bushels this year as compared with less than 9 million last. Long Island has nearly 19 million as compared with well under 11 million last. Maine has 61 million as compared with 54 million last year and 46 million average.

Here's where part of the confusion comes in. We are used to having things very cheap when the supply is big. But if the price support promise is carried out, potatoes will be reasonable in price, but not very cheap.

The two obviously can't go together; or better, the two could go together only if the price support is carried out by paying a subsidy to growers instead of holding up the price in the market.

This same difficulty in reconciling a large supply with maintained prices for farm products has appeared before -- when, for instance, there were an awful lot of eggs around a year ago last spring and prices in the stores didn't go way down.

A great deal more controversy is bound to be stirred up over the methods used in supporting prices. Growers on the one side are critical of any failure on the part of the Government to jump into the situation immediately and to do a complete job when prices sag below support levels. And the general public is bound to be critical of the expense involved and of some of the uses made of the surplus.

The methods used in supporting potato prices are, in broad terms, buying the surplus of early and intermediate season potatoes which can't be stored successfully and making loans on late-crop potatoes held in approved storage.



The loan is of such character that it amounts to a promise by the Government to buy the potatoes at the support price in case the grower or handler doesn't succeed in selling them himself.

To those involved in the price support activity -- either growers or representatives of the Government -- a statement such as I have made will seem so oversimplified as to mean almost nothing.

This purchase of the surplus, for instance, involves a lot of problems. If the Government buys the potatoes, it obviously has to do something with them, and that something ought to make just as much sense as possible.

That means that as many potatoes as possible will be used for human food. But the market is already over-loaded, else the Government wouldn't be buying. A few can be given to charitable institutions and so on, but the total that can be used that way, without cutting into the market for somebody's potatoes and just passing on the problem, is small. A few can be dehydrated or canned, but those processes are very expensive and with the war over, the justification for much of that sort of thing is past. There is always the chance of shipping a few to Europe or some other hungry place, but those early potatoes aren't well adapted to sea voyages. They are apt to be something else than food when they get to the hungry. And it is an open question as to how many of even the late potatoes we can get used that way, because potatoes can be grown in Europe easier than most other crops. However, that problem is being examined thoroughly.

For those that can't be used as human food, the next possible utilization is for manufacturing purposes. For instance, a good deal of potato starch is needed; it may be possible to get some potatoes converted into glucose once the necessary plants are available, and some trials of direct conversion into industrial alcohol are under way.

About the only plants that could be made available fairly promptly for industrial conversion of potatoes were the starch factories, most of which are located in Aroostook County, Maine.

When the deluge of New Jersey potatoes broke in August -- after the protracted rains there had held back digging and jammed marketing into an abnormally shortened season -- arrangements were made to open the Maine starch factories and ship potatoes there.

The wisdom of this can be debated as long as anybody wants to. Probably the potatoes at the loading point net the Government nothing -- maybe their value for starch is less than the cost of the freight. On the other hand, we need all the starch the factories can turn out. And the alternative would have been to dump them into the Atlantic Ocean, or just let them rot. That is, provided the U. S. Government was going to carry out its promise to the growers. Even this shipment for starch has to stop as soon as the Maine potatoes are ready for the factories.

There is one other use that has been made of a few. That is to get them to dairy farmers for cattle feed. But even that is likely to cost more for freight than the potatoes are worth for feed, unless the feeders live very near to the potato regions. There aren't enough of those nearby feeders to use more than a small part of the supply.

As a consequence, the Government, in order to do just as good a job as it can of redeeming its promise, has begun to buy potatoes right on the grower's farm, under his promise to store as well as he can and to deliver when requested.



It is hoped that the industrial facilities for things like alcohol and glucose will become available soon enough so that these potatoes can be utilized.

Great efforts are being made to that end.

But, if they don't, the United States Government will own some rotten potatoes on some New Jersey farms. We may as well face that possibility -- and prepare for the wrath to come.

Now, there is another problem connected with the late potatoes. The crop is so big that there isn't enough storage room in some of the larger producing areas to hold it all.

The potatoes that can be stored can be protected by a loan, but what about those that can neither be stored nor shipped?

It is now announced that loans will be offered on these potatoes in field or pit storage. The people that can do the best job of figuring out how to store potatoes in improvised shelters -- agricultural engineers from the State Universities and practical potato men -- are getting together to outline the best storage methods they can.

These loans will be made to growers who have more potatoes than they can store in regular storages but who will meet the specifications laid down.

It's not a method anybody would prefer, but it seems to be the best we can do.

Again, it's hoped to get the potatoes from these more or less extemporised shelters to industrial plants or shipped abroad before the worst of the winter comes. And again, if it can't be done, Uncle Sam will own some spoiled potatoes.

Let's remember this: Even if some potatoes do spoil, a lot less of them will spoil than if the Government were not in the deal. The difference is between a lot of potatoes being wasted at the expense of the grower, and a few being wasted at the expense of the Government.

And let's not forget this either: This way we shall have fairly prosperous potato growers across the breadth of this country, ready and able to produce the needed quantity of potatoes next year, and the year after.

The other way would be preparing for cuts in acreage, and shortages and high prices for consumers in the years to come, and the threat of disaster for growers -- a part of the "boom and bust" way of doing things -- that the country seems pretty well fed up on.

--- Radio Transcription, WBZ, Boston, Mass., Sept. 27, 1945, 6:15 a.m.

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(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast Region to AAA State Committeemen, Farmer Fieldmen, State Offices of PMA, County Offices in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, New Hampshire; and County Committeemen in New Jersey and Pennsylvania)